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BOOK REVIEW

ANIMAL PARASITES AND HUMAN DISEASE. By ASA C. CHANDLER. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1922. 572 pp., 254 figs.

The appearance of a new edition of this well-known book is evidence that the original met a distinct demand. In many cases an announced revision is merely an insignificant modification of the original edition. But here the reviewer should record at the outset his satisfaction, which will be generally shared, that this work has really been revised and brought up to date. Additions were made throughout the book sufficient in amount to constitute a significant part of the total. More important still, these additions have been well chosen and satisfactorily incorporated so that the text reads connectedly and the work impresses one as a unit rather than a patch work.

Very naturally the most extended and radical changes are found in the section on Protozoa, where the advance of knowledge during the four years since the appearance of the first edition has been marked. The section on yellow fever has been entirely rewritten and brought into connection with other diseases as warranted by Noguchi's discovery of the causal organism. Some other recently described spirochetes and their relation to the disease have also received due consideration. Among the flagellates insertions have been made to call appropriate attention to the splendid researches of Kofoid and Swezey, as well as other less extended works. The chapter on amoebae has been entirely rewritten and attention given to the extended critical studies of Dobell and others.

Under the Sporozoa the author has introduced considerable material dealing with the organisms of typhus fever, trench fever, spotted fever, and kedani or tsutsugamushi, grouped together as Rickettsia-like organisms. Almost nothing was known of such forms before military necessities compelled attention to these diseases so that we may rightly say the war contributed primarily to our knowledge of these organisms. While the work of Wolbach and his associates on spotted fever and on typhus fever has furnished valuable material utilized in the discussion of these diseases and their causal organisms, unfortunately the most recent of these publications has not received consideration; but this is very likely due to the fact that Chandler's manuscript was closed before the later publications appeared.

Under the Trematodes or flukes, there have been added paragraphs on the treatment and prevention of schistosomiasis, on the life history of Clonorchis and on Goddard's work on Fasciolopsis. However, the very beautiful study of Nakagawa on the life history of the lung fluke and of Kawamura and others on the relations of this parasite to cerebral disease among children have not received attention.

The chapter on Cestodes has suffered less change than any other and naturally because of the lesser amount of work done on these forms. The significant additions in the new edition are a paragraph on the life history of the broad or fish tapeworm of man, and another on the development of *Sparganum mansoni.*

Important items added to the Section on Nematodes include especially the life history of Ascaris, in which, however, entirely inadequate reference is made to the magnificent work of Ransom in this field. Some other significant discoveries concerning Roundworms have not received attention, and there are quite a number of places where minor changes such as were made in the chapter on Protozoa would have greatly improved this section of the book.

The results of scientific work induced by the war appear again conspicuously in the revision of the chapter on lice. The author has wisely enriched his account of these forms by including the splendid work on this group done by Nuttall during the war, and accepts Nuttall's view that these forms are all to be included within a single species having separate races only. But it is not clear why having done so and having used the ordinal name Anoplura in the first edition, Chandler should depart from Nuttall's guidance and replace this name by the less acceptable ordinal designation Siphunculata. The point may appear trivial but is really of fundamental importance in a field like parasitology, involving workers of such widely different training, so that evidently all changes should be avoided unless they are absolutely necessary. Nuttall's work has set the standard and will continue to be followed by medical and Zoological workers in parasitology. The change of a single name is bound to cause confusion and this one is unfortunate also because it does not follow the best of usage in entomology.

Two paragraphs dealing with the development of Dermatobia have been added, one in the section on mosquitoes and the other in connection with the discussion of fly larvae developed under the human skin.

It is a real misfortune that when a revision of this work was undertaken the author should have neglected to replace some of the exceedingly poor figures of the earlier edition that have been critically commented on. In one case (p. 275) where the entire page was rewritten in the new edition, the figure used is little more than a blotch and entirely unworthy of a work of this high character. Many persons will also be inclined to criticize the procedure of the author in omitting to cite at least the major references. There is to be sure a section on the sources of information which is useful even though it has not been brought up to date. Incidentally it would have been a better piece of book printing if this list had not contained so many awkward and unnecessary abbreviations in titles. But even at the best such a list is not adequate for the purposes of the student or just to the work of those investigators on whom the author has leaned for his information. One can but regret that the references are not somewhat more numerous and more directly connected with the text.